

Congress of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20515

March 1, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Schumer, House Minority Leader McCarthy, and Senate Minority Leader McConnell,

We write to respectfully request your immediate consideration of bipartisan emergency disaster supplemental appropriations relating to the winter storms in Texas and the Midwest, to provide targeted relief for the resulting impacts felt in states throughout the country.

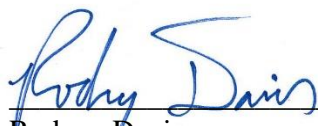
As you may know, in some areas recently, the price per unit of natural gas increased to as much as fifteen times the cost of what it was just weeks ago. As the COVID-19 pandemic persists and our local communities continue to recover, many are now faced with dauntingly high energy bills, including many that we represent. Immediate action is necessary to prevent further compounded financial damages.

The lack of power, rolling blackouts and surging energy prices cannot be ignored by the federal government. We are pleased that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has opened an investigation into natural gas markets and the spike in prices, but this does not resolve the financial woes our local communities now find themselves. While traditionally the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides disaster relief for emergency protective measures relating directly to a declared emergency, it does not have authority to provide relief for price variations in markets. Therefore, bipartisan emergency disaster supplemental appropriations are necessary.

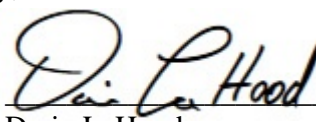
If Congressional leadership fails to address this issue, we run the risk of derailing any amount of progress that our local communities have made in their COVID-19 recovery efforts.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and consideration of this urgent request.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



Darin LaHood
Member of Congress